

Cracklin' Static

March 2020 Edition



Breakfast Meeting: Sat, March 7, 2020 Boomtown Casino Hotel Events Center
I-80 at Exit 4 in Verdi

Breakfast Buffet – 7:30am - \$12
General Meeting – 8:00am

Don Sherman W7SSB will do a show n tell on EMI/RFI tracking, and a presentation which will help new hams.

SNARS NET on DMR – Tuesday 8pm
DMR Talk Group: 31328 SNARS

SNARS Treasury Closing Balances as of 3/1/2020

Operating	\$6,084
Savings	\$9,471
Self Insurance	\$7,218
PayPal	\$942
Convention	\$4,29
Total	\$28,010
Net Monthly	-\$72
Net YTD	\$33
Renewals	14

SNARS Membership as of 3-1-20: 372

Extra	132	35%
General	112	30%
Technician	111	30%
Advanced	14	4%
No License	0	0%
License Expired	2	1%
Novice	1	0%

SNARS ARRL Members 67%

Regular	212
Life	39

President's Voice

President John Byerly, N7ROJ

Email: mtnlion@gmail.com



Hello members!
Spring seems like it is about to sprung! Hopefully everyone has all their spring projects lined up.

I have antenna work to do and I am excited for the weather to become nice enough to get it going! I am also planning to try some QRP

portable operations.

It is time to announce the return of the SNARS spring Ham Swap! It will be May 9th. The location for the swap is being finalized. Stay tuned for the location details.

Our team is working on the member appreciation BBQ May 30th at Bart;ey Ranch park. John Miller should have an article out soon if not in this Cracklin Static.

I look forward to seeing you all at the next meeting! Until then, good DX!

John/N7ROJ



PO BOX 7727 Reno NV 89510
Yearly Dues: \$40.00 Individual • \$50.00 Family
775.453.4142 <http://snars.org>

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Vice-President.....John Miller N7JDM
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Cracklin StaticHowie Holden, WB2AWQ
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Cracklin Static Publication

Editor: Howie Holden WB2AWQ - holden7471@msn.com

Cracklin' Static is the Newsletter of, and sponsored by the Sierra Nevada Amateur Radio Society. Published the week before meetings. Opinions expressed herein are those of the editors and contributors and should not be considered as official expressions of the Club Officers, Staff or Club Members, or as endorsements by same.

Material for publication may be edited to enhance readability or to save space. We reserve the right to use whatever font size, line spacing or other tools as may be required to publish this Newsletter. **Deadline for input to the newsletter is 1500 hours on the Sunday** prior to the 1st Saturday of each month.

SNARS Wide Area Linked System

147.030 + PL 123.0	Sparks, Fernley, Fallon	Online
147.210 + PL 100.0	Reno, Sparks	Online
147.150 + PL 123.0	Lake Tahoe, Truckee, Carson	Online
146.925 -?L 123.0	Lovelock, Fallon	Online
146.670 -?L 123.0	Winnemucca	Online
444.875 + PL 100.0	Yerington	Online
444.125 + PL 123.0	Reno Sparks	Offline

DMR Systems

444.925 + CC 1	Reno, Sparks	Online
444.825 + CC 1	Dayton, Fallon, Carson	Online
443.925 + CC 1	Lake Tahoe, Truckee, Carson	Online
443.950 + CC 1	Incline Village	Online
442.875 + CC 1	Sparks, Fernley, Fallon	Online
442.850 + CC 1	Downtown Reno	Online
441.950 + CC 1	Fallon, Fernley	Offline

Fusion Systems

146.610 - PL 123.0	Reno, Carson, Dayton	Online
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IRLP / EchoLink Systems

147.300 + PL 123.0	Reno, Sparks	Online
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Packet / APRS

145.050 - RNO	Reno, Carson, Dayton	Online
145.050 - ROSE	Lake Tahoe, Truckee, Carson	Online
144.390 - TOULON	Lovelock, Fallon	Online

Standalone Systems

147.390 + PL 100.0	Reno, Carson, Dayton	Online
443.075 + PL 123.0	Reno, Carson, Dayton	Online
927.0875 + PL 114.8	Reno, Carson, Dayton	Online

 Online  Offline  Not Linked

Thank you to our Sponsors/Supporters



Weekday on the SNARS Linked System

147.030 + PL 123 – Sparks/Fernley
 147.150 + PL123.0 – Lake Tahoe / Truckee
 147.210 + PL 100.0 - Reno
 444.875 + PL 100.0 - Yerington
 146.925 - 123.0 – Lovelock / Fallon
 146.67 – PL 123.0 - Winnemucca

Monday through Friday @ 12:00pm

Open to all amateur radio operators. A general informational net for the amateur radio community of Northern Nevada and Eastern California. Radio Checks and Questions are welcomed.

Nets on the SNARS Linked Systems

147.210 + 100.0 | 147.030 + 123.0 | 147.150 + 123.0
 147.670 – 123.0 | 146.925 – 123.0 | 444.875 + 100.0

ERC Net for NV and Northern CA	Monday @ 9:15pm
N. Western NV ARES Net	Thursday at 7:30pm
Northern Nevada Preppers Net	Wednesday @ 8:00PM
Hospital Net	Friday @ 10:00AM

Nets on IRLP (GSR) System

Repeater: 147.300 + 123.0

Amateur Radio Newslane	Monday - 8:00PM
Nevada Skywarn Net	Wednesday - 7:00pm
Nevada State ARES Net	Thursday - 7:00PM

Nets on Simplex/HF

Jefferson Noon Net	7.204 LSB	Daily - 12:00pm
6 Meter Net	50.350 USB	Tuesday – 8:00pm
2 Meter Week Signal	144.250 USB	Wednesday - 8:00PM
2 Meter Simplex Net	146.500 FM	Thursday – 8:00PM
10 Meter Net	28.350 USB	Sunday – 2:00PM

SNARS Weekly DMR Net – Tuesdays
 8:00PM

SNARS Talk Group 31328

Open to Members and Guests. A general information net each week on DMR.

SNARS CALENDAR

Ham Radio Night at the REOC Wednesday, March 4, 6 PM
 Washoe REOC 5195 Spectrum Blvd, Reno NV

SNARS Board Meeting Wednesday March 11,
 Chin-Chin 222 Los Altos Pkwy, Sparks NV

QCWA Nevada Chapter, Saturday March 14,
 Famous Dave's BBQ, 4925 Kietzke Lane, Reno NV

Next SNARS Breakfast Meeting – Saturday April 4, 8 AM
 Boomtown Casino Hotel Events Center I-80 at Exit 4, Verdi

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Dennie	Hartman	KI7VNF
Leif	Stensrud	KT7DAD
Gregory	Rodriguez	KE6NAU
David	Obenauf	N7OFL
Mark	Mitzen	KI7FNY
Clinton	Anderson	AE5CA

SNARS MEMBER APPRECIATION BBQ / PICNIC MAY 30TH

On Saturday, May 30th, 2020 the Sierra Nevada Amateur Radio Society will be hosting a member appreciation bbq/picnic at **Bartley Ranch Regional Park**



All SNARS club members are invited to attend and please tell us if you are bringing a guest. Watch for an RSVP sheet to be announced soon, as we have a limit of 100 attendees for this event. The park address is 6000 Bartley Ranch Rd., which is just off Lakeside Dr. south of S. McCarran Blvd. We have reserved the Flying B pavilion for this get-together, with plenty of covered seating and room to visit with each other. We hope for members to take this opportunity to enjoy the beautiful

park setting and meet with other members and make some new acquaintances.

The club will provide burgers, hot dogs, veggie burgers, condiments and bottled water. We are asking attendees to provide their own side dishes and drinks. FYI, the park regulations prohibit any alcoholic beverages. Please see the park website for details:

https://www.washoecounty.us/parks/rentals_and_permits/reservable_facilities/flying_b.php

We'll need a few volunteers to help with setup and cleanup and maybe take turn at the grills. More information will be announced as the date draws near.

We are looking forward to having our SNARS members altogether.

73,

John N7JDM <jmil912@gmail.com>

Barry K6ST <k6st@arrl.net>

Co-Chairs for May 30th, 2020 SNARS Membership Appreciation BBQ/Picnic



FLYING B PAVILLION at Bartley Ranch

THE NAME OF THE GAME

Jim Shepherd, W6US nvjims@gmail.com

7TH AREA QSO PARTY

The 7QP is an amateur radio QSO party, held annually on the first Saturday in May. That's May 2 this year. The stations of the US 7th call area (Arizona, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, Oregon, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming) become "the pursued", and the rest of the US, Canada and the world tries to work as many of us, on as many bands/modes as possible, over an 18-hour period commencing at 6:00am PDT (1300 UTC).

This year, we are again going to have a QSO party of our own in October, and the 7QP will be an excellent opportunity to get some practice in before our big party!

Operate from home, mobile or dust off the Field Day gear and get on the air from a rare county or a county line where you can operate from two or more counties at once and get extra points! There are 54 multi county locations in Nevada not counting stateline locations with the other 7th area states. Please plan on making a few or a whole bunch of contacts, just be sure to mark May 3 on your calendar! Yes, that is the SNARS meeting date, but you can work the contest the rest of the day.

We are trying to get all 17 Nevada counties on the air. Go portable and blow the carbon out of the generator or stay home and try out that new wire antenna. Or you can go mobile and activate several counties in your area. Visit the 7QP website: www.7qp.org for additional information and the full rules. May is a good time for an early camping trip out to some of the less populated rural counties. Humboldt, Elko, Lander and Eureka counties can really use some help with contacts. You can work these from county line locations along I-80 and make twice the contacts at once. The free campgrounds at Walker Lake will give you some spectacular views, wildflowers, bighorn sheep, and you can use the lake for a big "radial field" giving you an excellent signal to the east where you will make most of your contacts. Do not overlook the junctions of Nevada counties and other '7' states for interesting expedition operations.

Contacts can be made using SSB, CW, and Digital modes and each mode counts as a different contact. You can also contact the same station on different bands for credit. You can use 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, and 10 meters.. CW and digital contacts will be highly appreciated as the CW count 2 points and the digital modes count 4 points... PSK31 and RTTY will be the best way to go to get those extra QSO points, sorry you can't use FT8. All counties in Nevada can use more CW and Digital operations for this contest. Those members of FISTS and QCWA need to activate all the counties on CW with lots of operations.

There is one spot near a section of Goni Road north of Carson City where the four counties of Washoe, Carson, Storey, and Lyon come together and you can set up along the road within 500' of that point. If you run digital from there, you will be making 16

points plus any multiplier worked with each contact... If you want to win the digital class or mixed classes, that is the place to operate. There are 35 spots where 3 counties come together, with most having roads within 500'. Others will require some hiking and would be best for QRP operation like you would for SOTA.

If you plan to participate, even for a little while, do two things. First, you can see the activity on the [Planned Operations](#) tab on the 7QP page. Then, send your projected operation location(s) to 7qpops@codxc.org giving them information on modes and if you will be a mobile (rover) station. That way they can track the counties that will be covered and we can try to find someone to go out to the counties that are not. Even if the county is covered, digital and CW operators are encouraged to also go out there... Second, email them a copy of your log when you are finished. Either Cabrillo (preferred) or ADIF format will work. Your log helps them score the contest and automatically enters you – no summary sheet required for email entries. See their webpage for more information on uploading your log.

The exchange is easy... Just give a '59' signal report and if you are operating in the 7 call zone, your county code. For Washoe, it is NVWAS, for Storey, it is NVSTO... If you are outside of the 7 call zone, you give a '59' signal report and your 2 digit state abbreviation. There are special rules for county line stations, and you may get a report from one of the eastern states that are also having a QSO party. See the complete rules on their website for more information and a full list of county abbreviations.

There are a couple of other QSO parties that weekend so there is a lot of activity. The N1MM Logger will handle all of the contests at the same time so you only have to send copies of your Cabrillo log to each of the different sponsors. Nebraska, Indiana and Delaware are currently the other states—be sure to check their rules if you intend to play with them. Also, be sure to update your copy of N1MM so that it has the latest version.

In October, we will have the Nevada QSO party and we will need veteran operators in all the counties and on all of the modes. We will have a special VHF class that will allow the use of repeaters which will get a lot more people involved. Check out our website at <http://nvqso.com/> and look for updates over the coming months.

Nevada is a semi-rare state and some of the counties are very hard to work. These two contests will help to fill some holes in the logbooks. A good turnout for the 7QP will help with increased participation for our NVQSO Party and will show the world that we actually have hams here in Nevada!

SNARS LOGO ITEMS

This year we are celebrating our 50th year by providing many ways to commemorate this occasion by imprinting our 50th



Stickers \$1.00 Each



16oz Coffee Mugs \$8.00



Hats \$10.00



Club Badge \$15.00

Order at
<http://snars.org/store/badge-order>

Items are available at the monthly meetings, events or online (coming soon) <http://snars.org/store>

MIKE'S MISSIVES CHAPTER FORTY NINE

Mike Katz, N7MSK

CONFLICT SITUATIONS

The fact that we all (there are over 2.5 million hams around the world) play our hobby on one and the same field, the ether, will inevitably sometimes lead to conflicts. How do we handle these, that is the question! Our behavior on the bands should be based on common sense, good manners and mutual respect.

Rule # 1: never do or say what you would not want your best friend nor anyone else in the world to know about. A problem is that radio transmissions can be made anonymously. A person making unidentified transmissions with malicious intentions is not worth being a radio amateur.

Rule #2: Never ever contemplate jamming the transmissions from another station. As jamming can be done anonymously, it is the utmost expression of cowardliness. •There simply is no excuse for such behavior, even if you think that the station deserves to be jammed. So, maybe there is a situation which in your opinion needs to be corrected? Perhaps rightfully so, but think twice what will be the added value to our hobby, to YOUR hobby, to your reputation, before you start doing or saying anything.

Rule #3: Don't start controversial (religion, politics, etc.) discussions on the air. Chances are that others will join in and in no time, what maybe started as a more or less friendly discussion, may degenerate. Keep personal conflicts off the air. Settle your arguments on the telephone, the Internet or in person.

NAME THAT RIG

(Answers on page 9)



W7SSB's FUN STUFF

THE ART AND SCIENCE OF RADIO DIRECTION FINDING (RDF)

Every weekend, in cities and towns all across the country, ham radio operators gather on hilltops for a very special kind of contest--the Fox Hunt. A small, low power transmitter is hidden and the rest of the crew tries to find it. Sound simple? It can be very challenging and a whole lot of



fun. The direction finding skills learned in this activity can be very valuable in locating a repeater jammer, or a lost hiker. The Europeans and Asians are a lot more active in Fox Hunting and there are worldwide contests to compete in

Ham Radio Clubs thru out the US on weekends have Fox Hunts. The whole family can be involved. This would make a great event for our upcoming barbecue?



Example: <https://www.barnstablearc.org/?q=node/23>
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3RY4gt4oq0c>
<http://www.homingin.com/>
<https://www.byonics.com/foxhunt>

I think the club should maybe have several Fox Hunts a year with a prize for the winning team or individual? Try it you may like it.

<http://www.homingin.com/equipment.html>

There is no need to spend a lot of money for equipment.

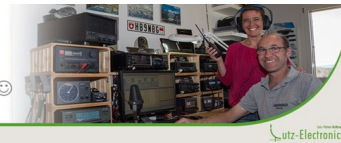
Use your handheld and you can make a simple yagi antenna and away you go.

There are many kits both receivers and antennas available at reasonable prices.

You can buy ready made equipment from MFJ, Rig Experts, Byonics and several others.

Great news letter from " Funk Radio Club !
Here is a sample from the latest one:

AMATEURFUNK IST NICHT
NUR UNSER BERUF –
ES IST UNSERE PASSION ☺☺



Set up stationary antennas storm-proof with little effort



DX operation on the KW bands is still one of the most fascinating activities for radio amateurs. It is not always easy to install suitable antenna solutions in residential areas or as tenants or owners of an apartment. Our sturdy stand is weighted down with 4 garden plates (optionally 8 plates) with 50x50cm and offers a stable solution. The foot is set up very easily - concreting a support pipe or similar. not necessary. We have built two BF4-100 stands as "bases" for both our BABY-LOOP and our "large" DX-Vertical Hy-Gain AV-620. The BABY-LOOP is rotatably mounted on a small G-450 rotor, which is mounted on a 2m long LR48 / 43-2 aluminum tube, which is attached to the stand with two "on-tube brackets" UGB80. For the AV-620 we have mounted an OMNI-Tilt-2P tilting bracket on the base, to which we have attached a light telescopic mast LMA-M as a support for the antenna. In this way, the entire antenna, including the mast, can be "put down" easily and with little effort for any revision work or in extreme weather events. (translated from the original German for clarity.....)

The newsletter can be seen at: <https://mailchi.mp/elecraft.com/elecraft-february-newsletter?e=ccade6a464>

DON's LINKS:

Your First Transceiver: What to look for.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qkE5rGEIYa0>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ws1eehnOXtg>

73, Don W7SSB

FUN STUFF FOR MARCH

Contests for March. Some of the better March contests are listed below. Of particular interest are the ARRL DX phone, and the increasingly popular Novice Rig Roundup. Those in **BOLD** are ARRL or NCJ sponsored, and may qualify for the Gavel Award.

7 Mar 0000 to 8 Mar 2359 1.8-28 ARRL International DX Contest, SSB Ph www.arrl.org/arrl-dx

7 Mar 0000 to 15 Mar 2359 3.5, 7, 21, 28, 144 Novice Rig Roundup CW www.novicerigroundup.org

11 Mar 2300 to 15 Mar 2300 7, 14 AWA John Rollins Memorial DX Contest CW www.antiquewireless.org

14 Mar 1800 to 15 Mar 1800 1.8-50 QCWA QSO Party CW Ph Dig qcwa.org/W2020-qso-party-rules.pdf

14 Mar 1900 to 15 Mar 1900 1.8-28 Idaho QSO Party CW Ph pocatelloarc.org/idahoqsoparty

15 Mar 0000 to 15 Mar 0400 3.5-14 North American Sprint, RTTY ncjweb.com

28 Mar 0000 to 29 Mar 2359 1.8-28 CQ WW WPX Contest, SSB Ph www.cqwpw.com

See <http://www.arrl.org/files/file/Contest%20Corral/2020/February%202020%20Corral.pdf> for a complete list of contests.

If you're not into contests, there's always DX to chase! March has great stuff scattered over the globe. Some of the better DX operations coming up in March:

Mar 03 to Mar 06 **Vanuatu YJ0NC**

Mar 04 to Mar 15 **Zambia 9J2LA**

Mar 04 to Mar 16 **Reunion TO7DL**

Mar 04 to Mar 22 **Rwanda 9X2AW**

Mar 06 to Mar 17 **Kyrgystan EX0QR**

Mar 09 to Mar 18 **Rodrigues I 3B9AN**

Mar 10 to Mar 31 **Vietnam XV9DXB**

Mar 11 to Mar 15 **Kuwait 9K2F**

Mar 12 to Mar 21 **Maldives 8Q7NC**

Mar 14 to Mar 16 **St Peter & Paul I PQ0S**

Mar 20 to Mar 31 **Andaman & Nicobar Is VU4R**

Mar 23 to Apr 03 **Ivory Coast TU2R**

There's more too! Check out: <https://www.ng3k.com/Misc/adxo.html>

NAME THAT RIG (from page 7)

Leo Meyerson, W0GFQ (SK), of WRL/Globe Electronics fame established the Galaxy Electronics Co specifically to manufacture HF transceivers. The **Galaxy GT-550** was a powerhouse model introduced in 1970. Offering 550W PEP input (good for about 250-300W PEP out) it was only 3 dB down from the then-max 1KW input allowed by the FCC. The price in 1970 was \$550, less a power supply which was another \$100. That works out to about \$4400 in today's dollars. The unit was pretty bare bones with few receive controls, but had a decent receiver for SSB, for which the radio was primarily intended. It was similar in performance to the higher power Swan radios of the day, and aimed at the same market. There were two glitches in these radios, the 9Mhz crystals essential to the sideband generation had a tendency to go off frequency, and the receiver tuned way too fast for all but very casual use especially on CW. There were plenty of options—calibrator, narrow CW filter, remote VFO for split frequency, matching speaker, etc., all at \$\$\$ of course! The **GT-550** was later sold under the Hy-Gain name (of antenna notoriety).

VERY BEST OF 73's.....

This is probably the most-used (make that misused!) phrase and numbered message in ham radio. Commonly but mistakenly thought of as part of the ARRL ARL message numbering system, 73 is simply a short greeting or QSO ending meaning "best regards" or "best wishes", originally for CW operators. Unlike 73, the ARL message numbering system is always transmitted with ARL as a prefix, and the number spelled out: ARL SIXTY TWO (best wishes in this holiday season). There are currently 69 ARL message numbers, numbers 1 thru 26 being for emergency traffic, 27 thru 44 unassigned, and 45 thru 69 being routine communications. Sorry but there is no 73 in the ARL list.

But we so often say or send "73s". What's that? "best regardses"? Even worse, "best of 73S", or, "best of best regardses"! But the worst: "very best of 73s" or "Very best of best regardses". You most often hear the misuse on phone, but even on CW and digital it occasionally is misused.

Add to all this the misuse of 88, (love and kisses) - think "very best of love and kisses"!!! There have been a number of letters to the editor in QST regarding this, plus at least one article that I'm aware of years ago, yet the errors continue. Let's clean up our act folks!

NORTHERN NEVADA 2-METER USB WEAK SIGNAL NET AND KC7YCX SK ANNOUNCEMENT & ESTATE SALE

As many of you may or may not be aware, there is a Northern Nevada 2-meter USB (upper sideband) Weak Signal Net on Wednesday nights 8p PT on 144.250 USB. Most of the hams in the Northern Nevada area use a vertical antenna for the net, even though weak signal work is often on a horizontal antenna. For several decades, the founder of the Northern Nevada 2-meter USB Weak Signal Net, KC7YCX Val from Sun Valley, NV ran the net faithfully as Net Control each Wednesday night at 8p PT. Unfortunately, our friend Val KC7YCX became a silent key this past month.

Since Val's passing, three other local hams, and Pete AC7Y, decided to keep the net going in Val's memory. The four of us decided to act as net control operators on a rotational basis. The net control operators are in order of the month:

Ernie, WD8JQN Pete, AC7Y Hank, N7TYE
Scotty, W7WSC

What a great tribute this is to Val KC7YCX (SK) and keeping the legacy of the Northern Nevada 2-meter USB Weak Signal Net alive each Wednesday at 8p PT on 144.250 USB. By way of history, KC7YCX Val was a wonderful technician both professionally and in the ham radio hobby. He was part of Reno Radio a long time ago and also for many years had a ham radio repair shop out of his garage in Sun Valley.



KC7YCX Val was also an avid model airplane builder and pilot. He had got out of this hobby many years ago. By chance, about two years ago, Pete AC7Y made mention of flying models airplanes, and that sparked Val to get back into it, and he and Pete enjoyed talking about modeling on the air after the local weekly nets. We had been talking to each other on the air for years before learning we had more in common than our love for ham radio.

Francesca W7LTG says that in 1969, the Jefferson noon net started in the future state of Jefferson. The net was started by Dave K6SOJ and Val KC7YCX worked with Dave to link the net on 2 meters in Reno. In 1976 the net move to 7.204 mhz on HF. Val has been a net control operator for 44 years and many Net controllers are silent keys under Val. He knew it was the end and gave the net to Stan AA6SE. Val KC7YCX was well known in the western states and was well-liked by everyone.

HAM RADIO ESTATE SALE on
Sunday March 8th 10a - 2p PDT at
Val's KC7YCX (SK) qth: 5978 AMARGOSA DR SUN VALLEY, NV
questions? contact W7LTG Francesca francescawine24@yahoo.com

It's often hard to say goodbye to a long time ham friend in our community, so in the tradition of saying Silent Key, we will say to KC7YCX: SK or in cw . . . -.- SK

73,

Barry K6ST

YOUTH INVOLVEMENT

KIDS DAY AT CABELA'S CONTINUED FROM LAST MONTH.....



We also spoke to several prospective hams, and some licensed but inactive hams. We were even joined by some friends from pervious events. Jim – KJ7JXE, and his son Ryland. Even though Jim had passed his Tech exam the



morning before the JOTA event back in October, he hadn't yet made his first contact. With a little help, Jim successfully made his first contact. Congratulations Jim!



Even the local media showed up to talk to us.

Greg – KG7D and Michelle the event coordinator for Cabela's and Bass pro shops.



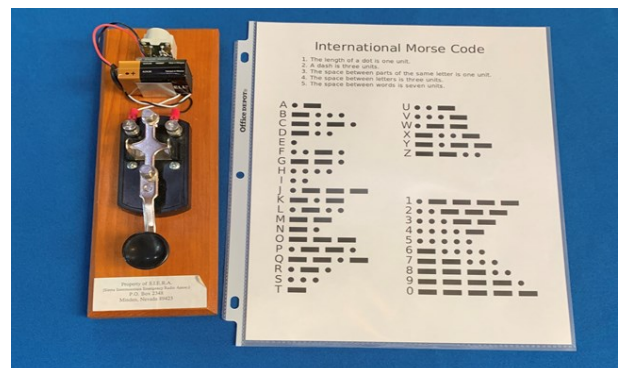
What better place to hold such an event, than a toy store for kids of all ages and sizes. Cabela's! Michelle, Cabela's event coordinator made sure we were well taken care of and well provided for. Thanks Michelle.

Thanks to all our volunteers at this event: **Wes –KG7QXE, Greg – KG7D, Subrina – KI7OAL, Bill- K7WHH, Heidi – Not yet..., Mary – KI7VGI, Justin – KI7VGJ, Gary – KJ7HMY, Hunter – KJ7IRS, McKenzie – KJ7IRT, Diana – KI7GVY** They did a great job and we all had fun doing it. Heidi Howe did a great job of being our official event photographer. Thanks Heidi.

We're lucky enough to have Barry – K6ST, the ARRL Nevada section youth coordinator, right here in our club. Last year Barry and our group brought seven youth events to life. This was only the first of several to come this year. It's all about having fun and sharing that curiosity that caught all of us. Contact Barry and let him know you'd like to join us in smiling, shaking hands, and sharing in the fun.

Greg Moore – KG7D

MORE PHOTOS FROM KID'S DAY BY CHUCK FARNHAM WD6CHC



Continued on page 12.....

YOUTH INVOLVEMENT

(Continued from page 11....)



ARRL SCHOOL CLUB ROUNDUP AT UNR

This semester is the School Club Roundup which was the week of Feb 10th - 14th <http://www.arrl.org/school-club-roundup>



The purpose of this week-long event was to have schools and clubs participate in ham radio. As such we partnered up with the UNR Amateur Radio club on campus at their ham-shack. There was a great turnout with 7 students and 4 adults including one from the community.



During our 3 hour gathering at the UNR Amateur Radio Club, they worked 20m hf including Japan as well as DMR to several stations in dx countries.

As we continue to support the UNR Amateur Radio Club, they hope to get more students licensed.

73, KN6FFU Nathan - nathanmgay@gmail.com
UNR Amateur Radio Club



KIDS ON BIG RIGS

Saturday, April 25th 8a till 4p
Peterbilt Truck Parts & Equipment
2272 Larkin Cir, Sparks, NV



This is a wonderful event for kids. Last year they had over 3000 + attend.

We will have a ham radio pavilion with plenty of gear this year again. The event itself for the public runs 10a - 4p with Setup is 8a - 9:30a and tear-down at 4p and after.



Please plan to come out and help us with the kids on ham radio, and youth involvement is such a key factor of our hobby legacy.



Contact Barry k6st@arrrl.net to participate. We welcome your ham radio enthusiasm for the kids.

73, Barry K6ST
Nevada Section Youth Coordinator ARRL (American Radio Relay League) arrrl.org

SHORT TAKES

Ham Radio Night, First Wednesday, March 4, 2019, 1800 hrs at the REOC. New hams Q&A session on how to get on the air, help with new radios, etc.

Contest Calendar Some interesting DX contests for February. March 6-8 is the ARRL International DX SSB contest. This is one of the biggest contests of the year for those trying to work some new countries. Full rules can be had at <http://www.arrl.org/arrl-dx>

The CQ WPX SSB contest is March 27-29. The object is to work everyone, everywhere and try to get as many different callsign prefixes as possible. Full rules can be found at <https://www.cqwpw.com/rules.htm>

DX There are some good ones on the air at this time. VP8PJ will be on the air from the South Orkney Islands until March 5. They are operating on all hf bands and using most modes. There is a lot of information on their website, <https://sorkney.com/> PJ7AA will be on Sint Maarten most of the

month right up to the WPX contest. There are lots of other stations and more can be found at <https://www.ng3k.com/Misc/adxo.html>

Field Day June 26-28, 2020 SNARS took FIRST PLACE last year in Nevada by almost double the score of the nearest other Nevada station. We hope to do this again this year! We got the main group area down by the boat launch again at Washoe Lake State Park as there are a lot of trees and a bigger shade area. We are going to continue our tradition of feeding the troops who come out and work, and we will have a big Tri-Tip dinner on Saturday Night for everyone. One major problem, Jon Fox, who has been our head chef for the last few years, will be at his other home in DU land (Philippines)... The Kitchen Crew is really the most important part of the weekend as they will keep the operators fat and happy, and that will translate into lots of contacts! We need volunteers for this crew—If you are interested, contact W6US at nvjims@gmail.com

(Continued on pg 14.....)

ARES NEWS

ANNUAL COMMUNICATIONS EVENTS CALENDAR 2020:

Carson Valley, Tahoe, Reno, Plumas Co.

NOTE: Plumas ARC always have a need for operators. Go over to some beautiful country and help out the Plumas Amateur Radio Club

EVENT 2020	DATE	DATE END	SPONSOR/ORGANIZER	COORDINATOR	CONTACT
ARES Kids on Big Rigs	4/25/20		Peterbuilt	Bob Miller WA6MTY	wa6mty@gbis.com
Truckee Meadows Earthday	4/26/20		CERT/ARES Exercise	Bob Miller WA6MTY	wa6mty@gbis.com
Silver State 50/50 race	5/16/20		Silver State Striders	Steve KS6A	ks6a@sbcglobal.net
CERT/ARES Joint Exercise	5/16/20		Washoe CERT	Mike Perry	mperry@washoecounty.us
Indian Valley Century Bicycle Ride	5/24/20		Plumas ARC	Larry Trotter KI6YUK	dltrtoter@sbcglobal.net
Pony Express Re-Ride	6/3/2020	6/13/20	SIERA	Jeff Cauhape K7BCV	j_cauhape@yahoo.com
Lost and Found Gravel Grinder SBTS	6/6/20		Plumas ARC	Larry Trotter KI6YUK	dltrtoter@sbcglobal.net
America's Most Beautiful Bike Ride	6/7/20		Tahoe Amateur Radio Assn	Paul Gulbro, WA6EWV	wa6ewv@juno.com
Truckee Dirt Fondo Bike Ride	6/13/20		John Prouty; Bike Monkey	Bob Miller WA6MTY	wa6mty@gbis.com
Alta Alpina Challenge	6/27/20		Alta Alpina Cycling Club	Jennie Hamiter, KE7YBA	jenniehamiter@mac.com
Death Ride	7/11/20		Tahoe Amateur Radio Assn	Paul Gulbro, WA6EWV	wa6ewv@juno.com
Tahoe Rim Trail	7/17/20	7/19/19	Tahoe Mountain Milers	Bob Miller WA6MTY	wa6mty@gbis.com
Running With the Bears	8/15/20		Plumas ARC	Larry Trotter KI6YUK	dltrtoter@sbcglobal.net
Trailblazer Challenge	8/15/20		Make-A-Wish Foundation	Bob Miller WA6MTY	wa6mty@gbis.com
Vegas to Reno Off Road Race	8/12/20	8/15/19	Best in the Desert Racing Assn	Keith KC7HTK	kc7htketh@hotmail.com
Tour De Tahoe	9/13/20		Tahoe Amateur Radio Assn	Paul Gulbro, WA6EWV	wa6ewv@juno.com
Reno Air-Races	9/13/20	9/20/19	WC-ARES	Bob Miller WA6MTY	wa6mty@gbis.com
Edible Pedal 100	9/20/20		Sunrise Rotary Club	Bob Miller WA6MTY	wa6mty@gbis.com
Bear Growl Gravel Grinder	9/12/20		Plumas ARC	KJ6CUG	dltrtoter@sbcglobal.net
Stetina Paydirt	9/19/20		John Prouty; Bike Monkey	Bob Miller WA6MTY	wa6mty@gbis.com
Grinduro SBTS	1/4/20		Plumas ARC	Larry Trotter KI6YUK	dltrtoter@sbcglobal.net
ARES Section Emergency Test (SET)	OCT TBD		Washoe EC	Bob Miller WA6MTY	wa6mty@gbis.com
Nevada Day Parade	10/31/20		NV AREA NW DEC	John Abrott KD7NHC	jabrott77@gmail.com , cell 775 790-1739
Sparks Turkey Trot	11/26/20		WC-ARES	Bob Miller WA6MTY	wa6mty@gbis.com



TECH COMMITTEE UPDATE

SNARS REPEATER STATUS March 2020

MT ROSE It continues to be noted that the 147.150 repeater is experiencing noise; this is likely caused by other broken antennas or loose hardware at the site. Efforts will be made when the access road opens to address these issues. 420MHz links to Peavine and Lobdelle are functioning normally.

OPHIR No change in status. 146.610, 147.390 and 443.075 repeaters on Ophir appear to be functioning normally. The 145.050 RNO packet node does appear to need some attention; there are frequent retries and it only routes to the Mt. Rose packet node. This will get looked at in the spring when the site is drivable.

MT DAVIDSON Mt. Davidson still needs some repairs and modifications to prevent rodent infestation! This will be a summer improvement project. Davidson is home to our 444.825 DMR repeater, 927.0875 repeater, and 224.500 repeater. It also hosts the NARRI 444.625 and 145.175 DSTAR repeaters.

VIRGINIA PEAK The UHF link transmitter to Toulon Peak appears to be down in power level and is producing a noticeable whine that is heard only through the Toulon 146.925 and Winnemucca 146.670 repeaters. A spare link radio is ready to be installed as soon as the site is accessible. The 147.030 repeater and link to Peavine appear to be functioning ok through the winter.

PEAVINE No change in status. Repeater and links are functioning normally.

TOULON PEAK The 146.925 repeater and UHF link on Toulon Peak may have difficulty hearing traffic coming from Virginia Peak due to its low power output of the link transmitter. Signals coming from the Reno area may sound noisy through Toulon until the link can be repaired. The status of the link to and from Winnemucca Mtn is unknown at this time.

WINNEMUCCA MTN 147.670 repeater on Winnemucca Mountain appears to be functioning normally. The link antenna at Winnemucca Mountain still needs to be relocated off of the tower it's currently on, and moved over to the telephone pole that holds the repeater antenna. This work is currently on tap for early March if weather holds. The status of the link to the Elko system is also unknown at this time; last known, the Elko Group was working on some problems they were experiencing with some of their links.

LOBDELLE PEAK The 444.875 repeater on Lobdelle Peak, south of Yerington, was suffering from degraded receiver sensitivity. A complete tune up was performed on the GE MASTR II and returned back to factory specifications. The 145.050 YR-GTN:W7DED4 packet node was also restored to service and appears to be functioning properly.

GSR The 147.300 repeater on Grand Sierra is functioning as a standalone repeater. The IRLP node is still pending installation.

DMR SITES The tech committee is unaware of any issues with any of the DMR repeaters. I would encourage those who have DMR capability to participate in the nets that occur on the SNARS talk group. Check SNARS.org for more information on these nets.

220 MHz Repeaters SNARS has the opportunity to take donation of some 220 MHz repeaters that could be put to good use. Stay tuned for more information on this as things develop. If there are any questions regarding any of the sites, feel free to contact me at w7ded@sbcglobal.net.

73,

Pat, W7DED

SHORT TAKES (Continued from page 13)

Pony Express Re-Ride 2020 The 2020 Pony Express Re-ride will be June 3-13 this year and it is eastbound from Sacramento to St. Joseph, MO. With all of the mountain ranges here in Nevada, there is a need for a bunch of operators to handle communications. You will need to use HF, VHF and UHF gear out in the field to be able to help. It will usually require camping out at least overnight during the day or 2 that you will be needed here in Nevada. If you are interested in helping, contact Tom Tobacco, KE7NCJ at his email address smokey@pyramid.net for further information and needed locations for help. A schedule and more information on the Re-Ride can be found at <https://nationalponyexpress.org/annual-re-ride/ham/>





Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

February 12, 2020 - Approx 6:15 PM
Chin Chin, 222 Los Altos Pkwy, Sparks

1. Call to order and roll call at 6:05 PM

Board of Directors:

Anthony Marcin, W7XM	P	Barry Bettman, K6ST	P	John Miller, N7JDM	P
Bill Jones, AE7OX	P	John Byerly, N7ROJ	P	Wes Vick, KG7QXE	P
Jim Shepherd, W6US	P	Doug Edmondo, W7DBE	P		

No Guests in attendance

2. Approval of Minutes - Discussion/Action

A. The board motioned and approved the January BOD meeting minutes.

3. Approval of Agenda - Discussion/Action

A. The board motioned and approved the February BOD meeting agenda

4. Reports

A. President's Report

1. John discussed the poor AV conditions at Boom Town when we are forced into the buffett area. John stated and the board nominally agreed that we will not bring in outside presenters under those circumstances as it is disrespectful to the guest.

B. Secretary Report

- 1.. Review Business Activity Calendar. - Tony added a schedule for payments for the storage shed to the calendar.
2. Filing of Tax Exemption Status with State of Nevada Renewal. The five year tax exemption has been filed.

C. Membership Coordinator - No report this month. Again kudos to Kim for doing a bang up job.

D. Treasurer

1. Financial Report: Bill passed around the bank statements for review.
Checking: \$6,256 Savings: \$9,471 Paypal: \$767 Conv: \$4,295 Self-Ins: \$7,215

E. Technical Team

1. Still having link interference on Ohpir (610 machine). Also need to assist in moving the link antenna at the Winnemucca site.

F. Control Operators / Trustee – No status

G. Events

1. NVCON 2020 Discussion – No discussion
2. NVQSO – Jim showed the award plaques that he made. Really Really nice work.
3. Spring Ham Swap – Board will be asking for volunteers. Barry checking dates in early / mid May for the swap.
4. Field Day 2020 – Jim will be needing help, especially someone to cook meals.
5. May 30th BBQ – Barry presented a rough budget for 100 heads which is around \$500 for the club. Barry and John will need help for set up, cooking and clean up.

H. Education & Youth Activities

1. Kid's Day Report – Barry updated on his meeting with UNR on the 10th, Kids on Big Rigs and June Kids day on June 20th. Barry is also following up on the plaque at Cabellas since the manager that helped us has moved on to a new job.
2. Ham Radio Night at the REOC – Jim reported a great turn out of 11 people for the grounding class.

I. Noon Net - Noon Net Manager – No status

5. Old Business

- A. Breakfast Meeting Location - Discussion/Possible Action. John M. And John B. visited the Best Western and were impressed with the meeting room and the discussion. John Miller ate at the restaurant and said that even with a similar menu as Boom Town the food was much better. John is awaiting numbers from Best Western before the board makes a decision.
- B. Members Only Website – Update. Tony is working on the update and hopes to finish in a couple weeks if he can find the time.

6. New Business

- A. Discussion on the snars@snars.org email - Discussion/Possible Action. - Board discussed options for making sure that E-mails and voice mails get responded too and to ensure that we don't double up with responses. Barry proposed that if you respond cc snars@snars.org and everyone is notified.
- B. John B. Discussed the possibility of the club starting an Elmer team to assist HAMs with questions. Board discussed purchasing books and the general feeling is positive.

7. Public Comments - There were no public comments.

8. Adjournment - Action

- A. Next Meeting: March 11, 2020. Location Chin Chin
- B. Call For Adjournment. Board adjourned at 19:15 ish.